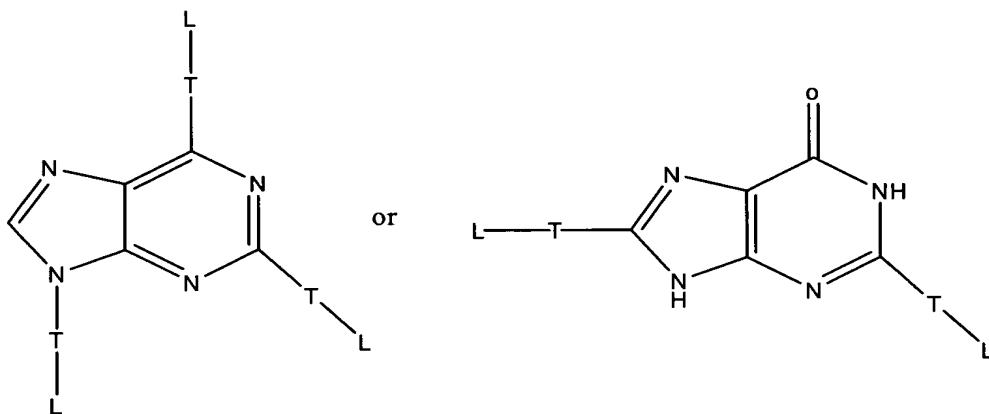


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The instant invention is directed to a novel mixture which comprises at least six chemical compounds represented by either structure.



Such mixtures are well suited for a variety of uses including screening of pharmaceutical, industrial chemical, and pesticide compounds. Unlike typical combinatorial mixtures, the instant mixture can be formed in the solution phase.

Claims 2-4, 7 and 33 are pending. An amendment to claim 33 is presented. The basis for the amendment can be found through the specification. See, for example, examples 6, 8, 10 and 11. Claim 5 is canceled.

Claims 2-5, 7, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious in view of J. Am. Chem. Soc 1961, 83, 1113-1117 (the Usbeck reference) in view of PCT Patent Application WO 96/33972 (the Gordeev application) and J. Med. Chem. 1994 37, 1385-1401 (the Gordon reference). The Office Action alleges that the Usbeck reference reads on structure II when j is 1, e is 0, T is O or NH and L is H for two of the T - L combinations and for the other T - L combination, T is $-N=N-$ and L is dialkyl, aryl or thioalkyl (page 3). The instant amendment directs structure II compositions to ones where j is 0 and e is 1. As part of the amendment, structure II is presented without the $-T-L$ combination associated with variable j to increase

DOCKET NO.: ISIS-2202
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Office Action Dated: November 21, 2003

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

clarity in view of the amendment. Because j is equal to zero, the compositions of the amended claims lie outside the alleged area of overlap. Thus, even if one were motivated to combine the Usbeck reference with the secondary references one would not arrive at any claimed invention. Applicants respectfully ask that the amendment be entered and the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early and favorable reconsideration of the rejections and an allowance of all of pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 20, 2004

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